Disinvestment of BHEL, HEC, etc.

3490. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has decided to disinvest Government's stake in five public sector undertakings namely BHEL, Heavy Engineering Corporation, Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, HMT and Hindustan Photo Films Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) On a reference by the Ministry of Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises, the process of disinvestment/Joint Venture formation in Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited has been taken up and it has not yet been completed. As of now, there is no proposal of disinvestment in Heavy Engineering Corporation. The information in respect of BHEL, HMT and Hindustan Photo Films Limited is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New drug permissions

3491. SHRI MUNNAVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DCGI office is using discretionary powers in granting new drug permissions;

(b) the details of number of applications received during 2001 for new drug permissions, Bio-equivalence permission;

(c) when were these applications received and the time taken for the final permission; and

(d) whether it is a fit case to be investigated by CBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The following are the number of new drug applications received during the year 2001:

1. Investigational New Drug (IND)—2
2. New Drug Applications—56
3. Subsequent Applications for New Drug approval requiring Bio-equivalence studies about 400.